

AMENDMENT

In response to the Office Action, please amend the application as follows:

IN THE CLAIMS:

Please amend claim 12 as follows:

12. A diagnostic method for detecting diseases associated with an autoimmune response

A1 to hTM in affected tissue, comprising detecting CEP-hTM complexes in a tissue, the presence of
CEP-hTM complexes being indicative of the disease.

Please add the following claim:

A2 16. The method of claim 12, wherein the tissue is a circulating tissue.
